

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7065
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C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 6453

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS SHUM, PORG, YO, AR
SUBJECT ARGENTINE POSITION ON ZUIONISM/RACISM, PUERTO RICO,
OTHER NAM RESOLUTIONS

REF: A STATE 204786; B STATE 206009; C STATE 207227

1. DCM DELIVERED AIDE MEMOIRE TO ARGENTINE HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS JULIO BARBOZA WHO SAID HE WOULD BRING US POINTS TO ATTENTION OF ARGENTINE DELEGATION AT RACISM CONFERENCE (REFTEL A). BARBOZA NOTED THAT ARGENTINA'S POSITION AGAINST ZIONISM/RACISM LINKAGE WAS CLEAR (SIC). HE ADDED THAT ARGENTINA INTENDS TO FILE A RESERVATION ON THE ZIONISM/RACISM LINKAGE THAT WAS RECORDED IN THE RECENT NAM DECLARATION FROM BELGRADE.

2. BARBOZA SAID THAT GOA WOULD ALSO RESERVE ON THE PUERTO RICO LANGUAGE IN THE BELGRADE NAM DOCUMENT, AS IT HAS IN PREVIOUS NAM AND UN RESOLUTIONS (REFTEL B). GOA IS CURRENTLY REVIEWING THE NAM DRAFT DECLARATION IN
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ORDER PREPARE ITS WRITTEN RESERVATIONS WHICH MUST BE FILED WITHIN THREE MONTHS, ACCORDING TO BARBOZA. HE EXPALINED THAT THE NAM CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN APPEALED TO THE DELEGATIONS TO HOLD RESERVATIONS UNTIL AFTER THE CONFERENCE IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THE APPEARANCE OF UNITY AND CONSENSUS. THE ARGENTINE DELEGATION FORMALLY RECORDED ITS RIGHT TO FILE RESERVATIONS TO THE FINAL DOCUMENT,

BARBOZA SAID.

3. A MEMBER OF BARBOZA'S STAFF GAVE EMBOFF A COPY OF THE DRAFT DECLARATION PREPARED AT BELGRADE AND NOTED THAT ARGENTINA INTENDS TO FILE A NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS; ON PUERTO RICO, ZIONISM/RACISM, THE RIGHT OF LIBERATION MOVEMENTS TO RESORT TO ARMED CONFLICT, THE CHILE RESOLUTION, A NUMBER OF THE PALESTINE AND MIDDLE EAST RESOLUTIONS, AND PERHAPS OTHERS. THE OFFICIAL OFFERED TO SUPPLY EMBOFF WITH A LIST OF GOA RESERVATIONS ONCE PREPARED, WITHIN TWO OR THREE WEEKS. IN DISCUSSING THE ANOMALY OF AN ALLEGEDLY "CONSENSUS" NAME DECLARATION PEPPERED WITH INDIVIDUAL RESERVATIONS, OFFICIAL CONCEDED THAT THE MODERATE NAM NATIONS WERE CONCERNED ABOUT THE PREPARATION OF THE FINAL DOCUMENT AND THAT A WORKING GROUP HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED TO CONSIDER PROCEDURES FOR FUTURE DECLARATIONS. ONE IDEA IS THAT ANY RESOLUTION WHICH ATTRACTED A CERTAIN NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE DROPPED OR AT LEAST REFORMULATED IN FUTURE DECLARATIONS.

4. PROFESSIONAL ARGENTINE DIPLOMATS TEND TO MINIMIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NAM AS A COHERENT, USEFUL ORGANIZATION. HOWEVER, THEY SAY THAT ARGENTINE PARTICIPATION IS NECESSARY AND USEFUL TO REASSERT MODERATE POSITIONS AND TO PREVENT CUBA FROM DOMINATING

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AND RADICALIZING THE MOVEMENT. THEY CONCEDE THAT CUBA IS VERY FORCEFUL AND EFFECTIVE AND IN MANY INSTANCES, IT IS PREFERABLY TO PERMIT THE CUBANS TO HAVE THEIR WAY (IN PUSHING HARSH PUERTO RICO LANGUAGE, FOR EXAMPLE) AND SAVE THEIR "MODERATE" AMMUNITION AND ENERGY FOR OTHER ISSUES. (GOA OFFICIAL EXPLAINED THAT WHEN PUERTO RICO ISSUE CAME UP IN LATING AMERICAN GROUP AT BELGRADE, THE PUERTO RICAN SOCIALIST PARTY'S CONDEMNATORY LANGUAGE WAS SUPPORTED BY NAM MEMBERS CUBA, GUYANA, JAMAICA, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, AND BARBODOS LEAVING MODERATES PERU AND ARGENTINE IN AN UNCOMFORTABLE POSITION (REFTEL C). PANAMA, AS GROUP CHAIRMAN, WAS NONEOMMITTAL. RATHER THAN BATTLE THE ISSUE ALONE, THE OFFICIAL SAID, ARGENTINA ACQUIESCED ON THE LANGUAGE, INTENDING TO RE-ESTABLISH ITS WELL KNOWN POSITIONS ON PUERTO RICO BY RESERVING ON THE NAM LANGUAGE. OFFICIAL CONCEDED THAT THE NAM IS A "SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST" CONTEST, IN WHICH THE RADICAL STATES WEAR DOWN MODERATE OPPOSITION BY OUT TALKING IT. HE SAID THAT THE NAM MODERATES JOKE THAT CUBA EMPLOYS "EYELID DIPLOMACY" -- WHOEVER FALLS ASLEEP FIRST, LOSES.)

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Message Attributes

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